



THE TRANSFORMERS SPOTLIGHT

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REVELATION PART TWO
HAIRHEAD

NICK 08



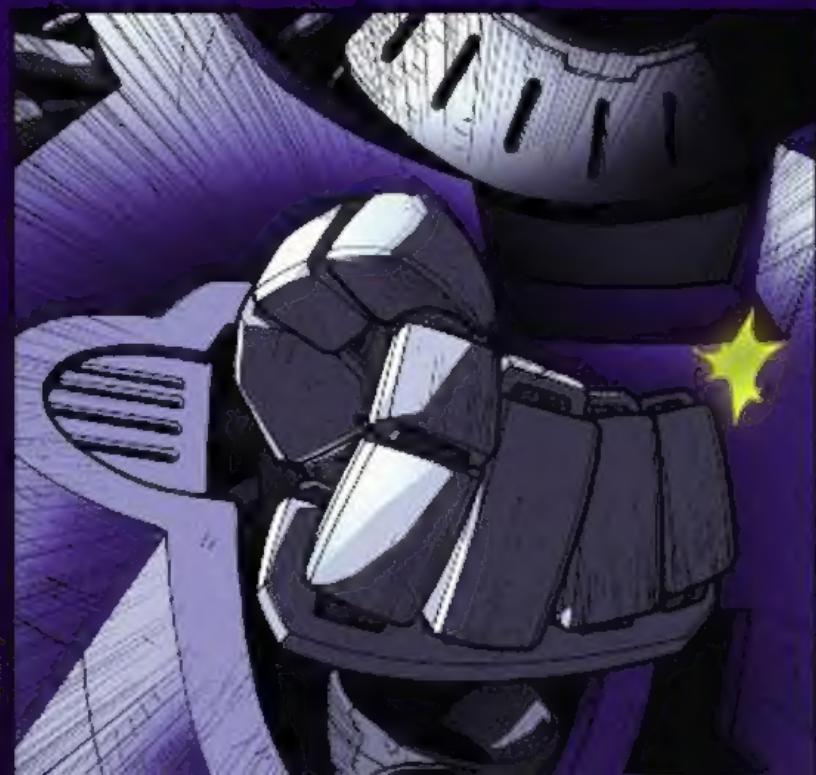
REVELATION

STORY SO FAR...

Corata-Vaz, a seemingly inconsequential planet in the far reaches of space, has become the front line in the battle against an incursion from a long-dead dimension. There, ancient Cybertronian CYCLONUS has activated both the monstrous, unstoppable THUNDERWING and a Nega-Core, an integral part of a cosmic event known as The Expansion. Meanwhile, Autobot investigator NIGHTBEAT probes his own missing memories of a planet called Gorlam Prime, unaware that it and he are facets of the master plan of NEMESIS PRIME...

CYCLONUS

PHASE FOUR CONTINUES...





Thick-skinned, uncompromising, by the numbers, his remit is to clean up the messes, see to damage limitation. Where others may balk or prevaricate, he steps up ready to do whatever needs doing... to whomever. A realist, he understands that 'bots like him have a shelf life, that the future is a big black hole just waiting to swallow him. His name...

...IS HARDHEAD!

ARK-32:

I LET NIGHTBEAT DO ALL THE TALKING.

IT'S NOT JUST THE MISSING MEMORIES I'M CONCERNED ABOUT...

...IT'S MY ENTIRE STATE OF MIND!

IF SOMETHING ELSE WAS DONE TO MY NEURAL PROCESSOR, I COULD EASILY BE A DANGER TO YOU AND OTHER AUTOBOTS.

I INTEND TO RETRACE MY STEPS, FIND OUT EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED IN THOSE DELETED CYCLES, BUT I NEED YOU WITH ME.

I WANT YOU TO WATCH ME LIKE AN ARDURIAN ROC, AND IF I LOSE CONTROL, EVEN FOR AN INSTANT...

...ELIMINATE ME.

SURE.

HARDHEAD—
'BOT OF FEW WORDS.

SO, WHERE DO WE START?

GORLAM PRIME:

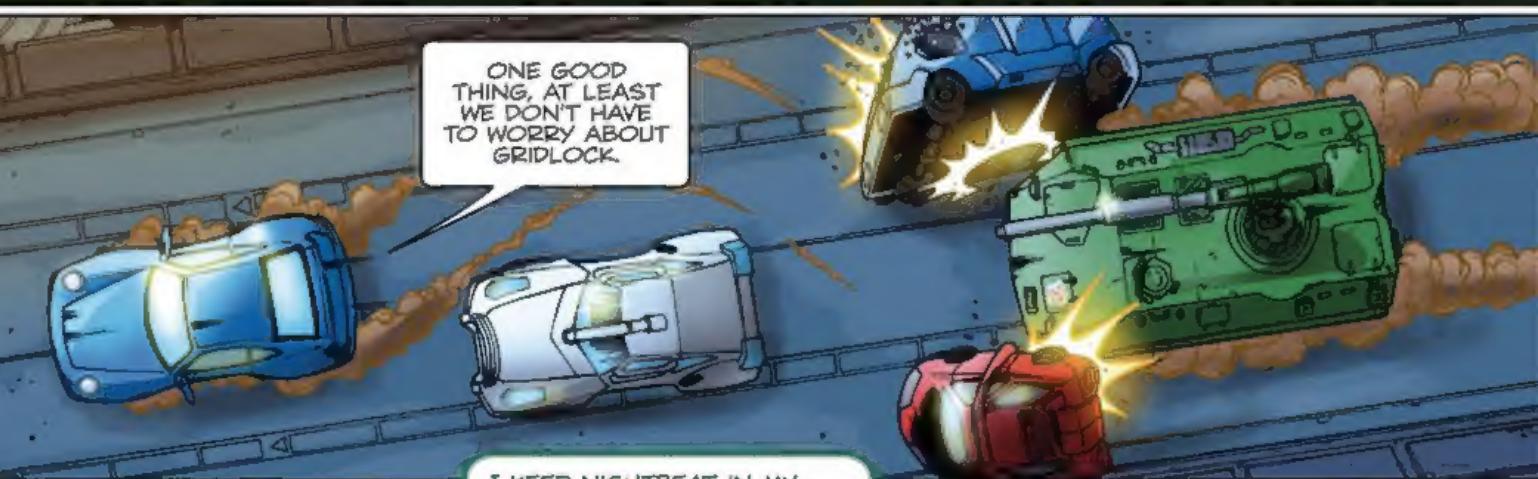
THINGS HAVE
CHANGED
SINCE I WAS
LAST HERE.

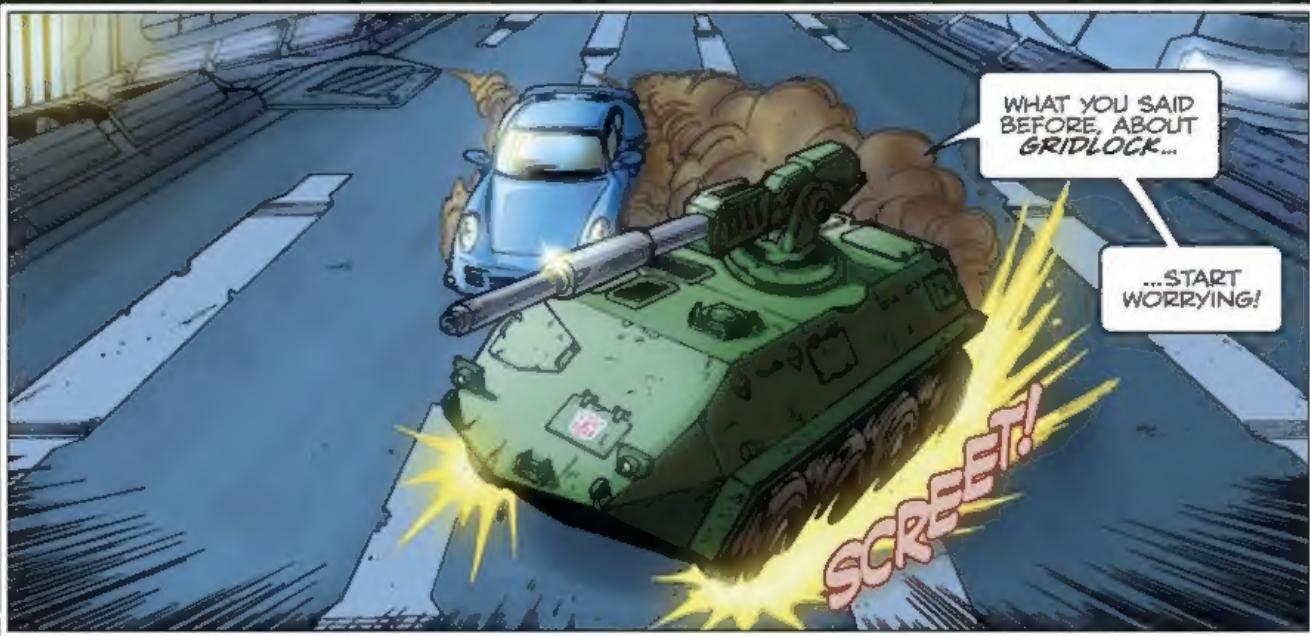
REALLY? LOOKS
TO ME LIKE THE
WHOLE WORLD
JUST... STOPPED.

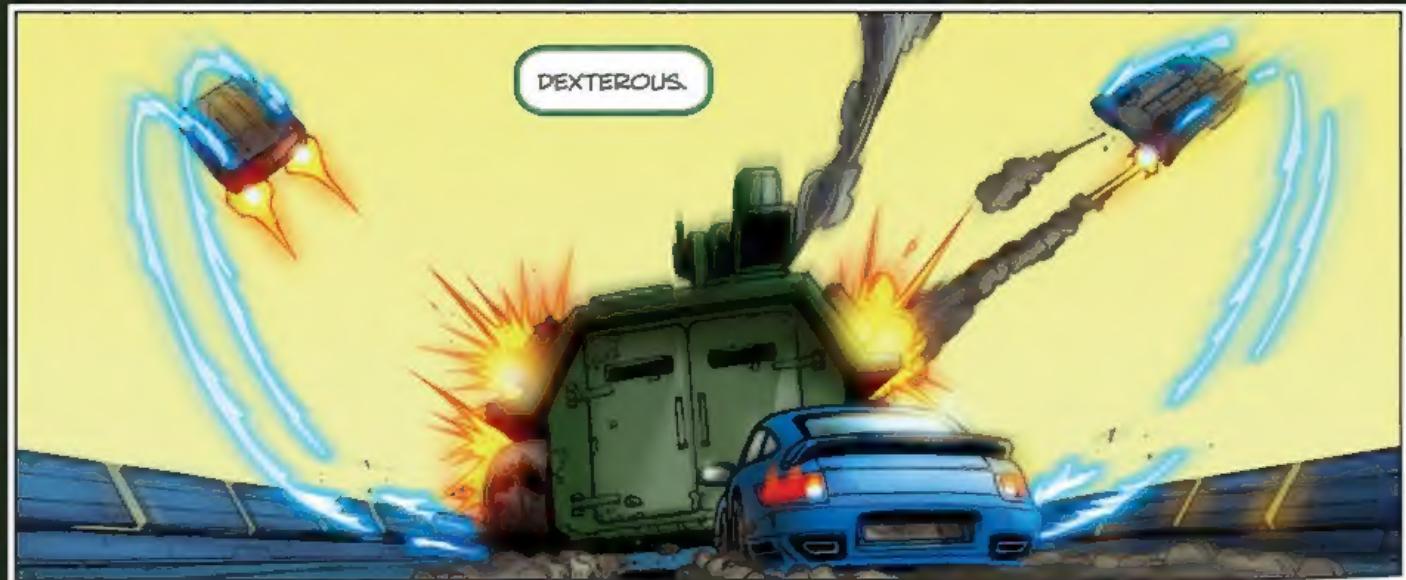
APPEARANCES CAN
BE DECEPTIVE. THERE'S
ACTUALLY A LOT GOING ON,
BUT IT'S ALL INTERNALIZED—
IT'S AS IF THEY'VE ENTERED—
EN MASSE—A CHRYSALIS-LIKE
STATE AND *EVOLUTION*
HAS SPED UP.

FROM ORGANIC TO
TECHNO-ORGANIC TO...

UG?











CORATA-VAZ:

"IT'S HOPELESS."

"FUTILE."

"SUICIDAL!"

GARRUS-9
PENITENTIARY:

I KNOW,
PROWL. BUT IF
THEY D'DN'T AT
LEAST TRY...

...THEY WOULDN'T
BE THE WRECKERS.

I GUESS, IT JUST SEEMS
TO ME WE'RE WASTING
PREC OUS TIME. THIS, THE
MONSTRUCTOR MESS...
IT'S LIKE EVERYTHING'S
COMING AT US AT ONCE!

TRUE, BUT ABOVE
AND BEYOND THE
BRAWN...

JETFIRE,
ANYTHING?

...WE HAVE
BRAIN.

WELL, THERE'S
A BIG ENERGY SPIKE
COM NG FROM THAT
CAVERN THUNDERWING
IS GUARDING, BUT IT'S
DEFEATING OUR BEST
EFFORTS TO
CATEGORIZE IT.

ON THE PLUS
SIDE, I'VE HAD SOME
INTERESTING FEEDBACK
FROM OMEGA SUPREME
ON OUR MYSTERY
CYBERTRONIAN...

I RAN TAC-CAPTURE
IMAGES PAST HIM FROM
THIS RECENT ENCOUNTER
AND THE STRIKINGLY
S.MILAR ONE ON
CYBERTRON. HERE, I'LL
PLAY IT BACK FOR YOU...

HIS NAME
IS CYCLOPS...
THE OTHER'S
GALVATRON. BOTH
WERE ABOARD THE
FIRST ARK ALONG
WITH NOVA
PRIME.

IT ALL KEEPS
COMING BACK TO
NOVA. THE FIRST ARK'S
DESTINATION WAS THE
BENZULI EXPANSE.
SO...

...THAT'S
WHERE WE'LL
START.

THE DEAD
UNIVERSE:

I THOUGHT
TO FIND YOU
HERE...

...WHERE IT
ALL BEGAN.

ENDED.

IN THAT FATEFUL MOMENT
WHEN WE CROSSED THE
THRESHOLD FROM THERE TO
HERE, OUR LIVES—AS THEY
WERE—CHANGED FOREVER.
WE CAN NEVER GO BACK
TO WHAT WE WERE.

BUT WE CAN
GO BACK

...THE
DARKNESS!

HOW GO THE
PREPARATIONS?

ALL THREE
NEGA-CORES HAVE
BEEN ACTIVATED,
NEMESIS PRIME, AS
HAVE THEIR RESPECTIVE
GUARDIANS, BUT...

...OUR OPENING
GAMBIT HAS NOT
GONE UNNOTICED.

EXPLAIN.



CYCLONUS DREW UNWANTED ATTENTION ON WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A CLANDESTINE INCURSION. I STRONGLY SUSPECT HE EXCEEDED HIS REMIT. AND, SOMEHOW...

...NIGHTBEAT HAS FOUND HIS WAY BACK TO GORLAM PRIME.

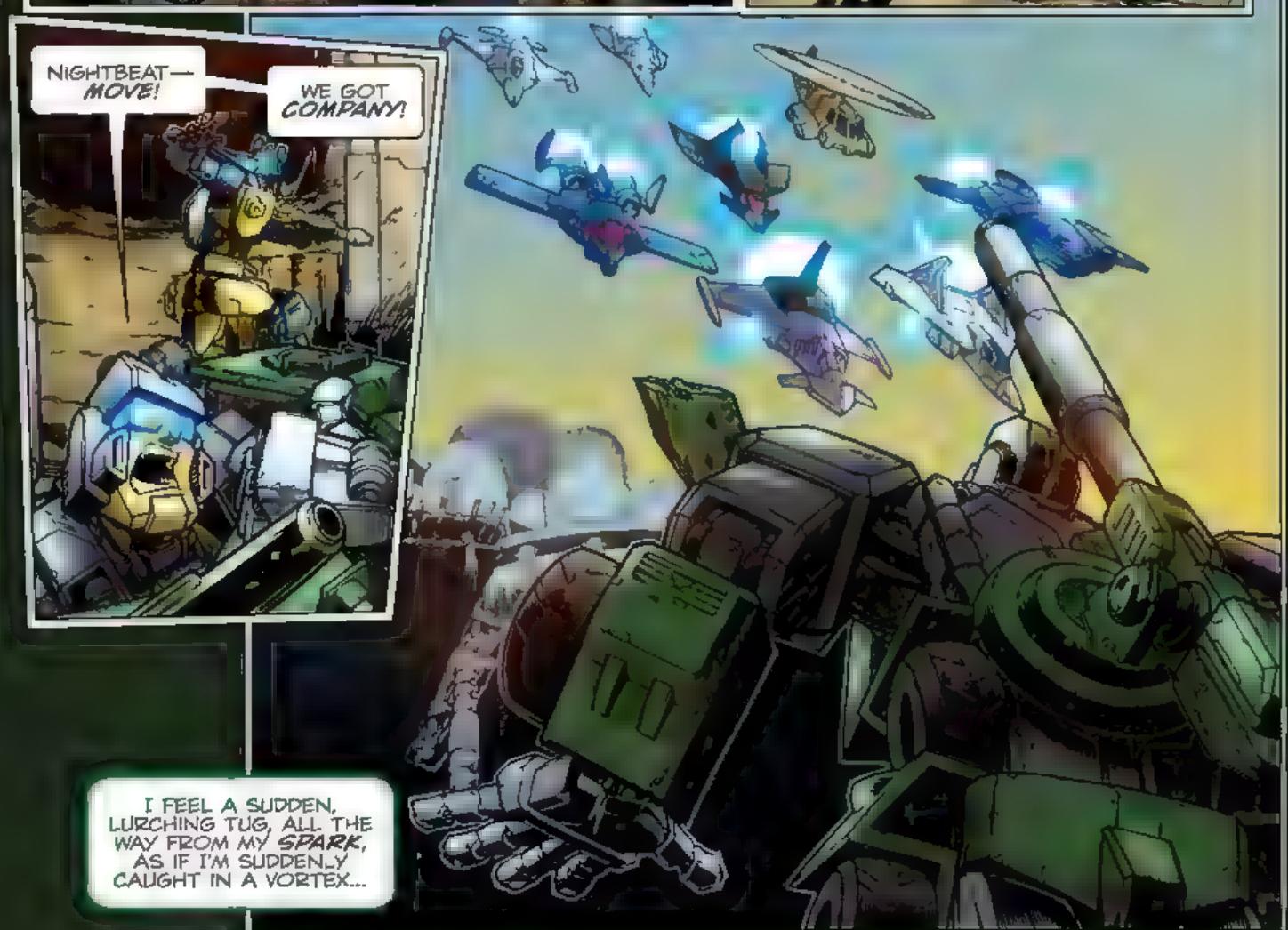


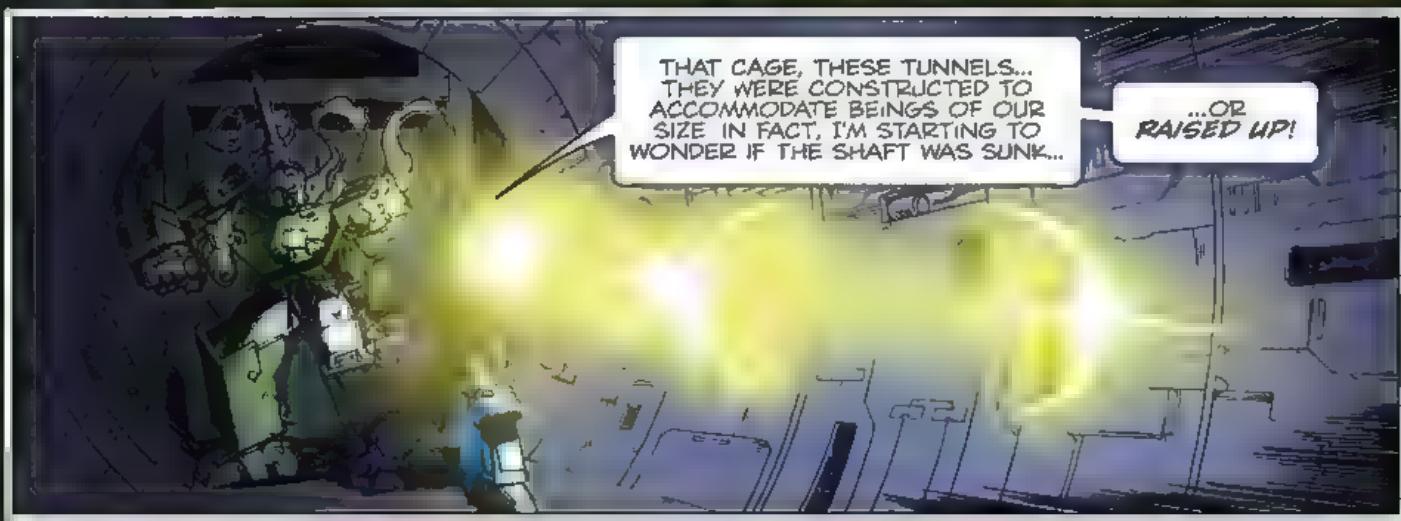
THE SITUATION ON CORATA-VAZ IS REGRETTABLE BUT ULTIMATELY CONTAINABLE. THUNDERWING IS THE VERY EPITOME OF UNSTOPPABLE FORCE AND IMMOVABLE OBJECT.

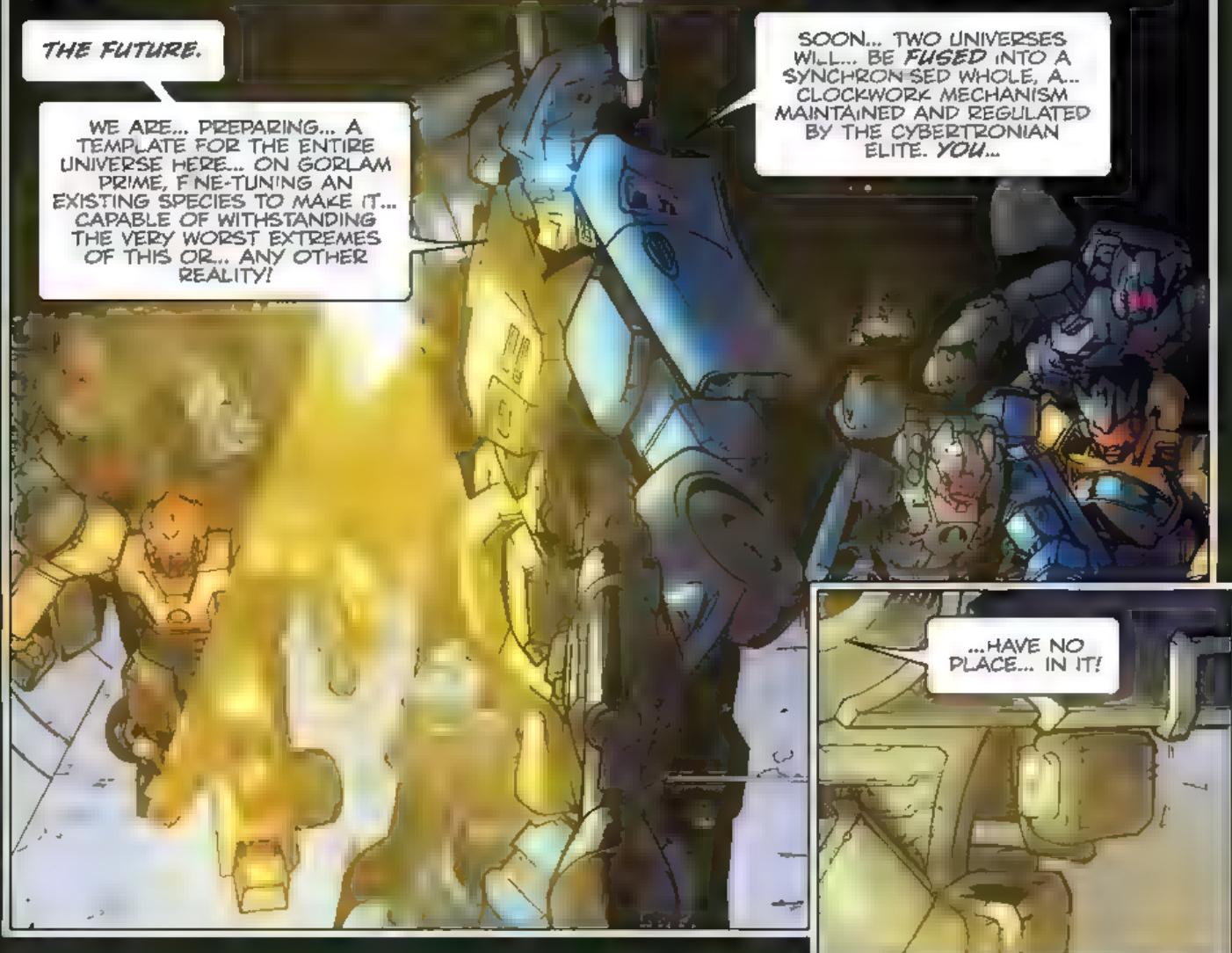
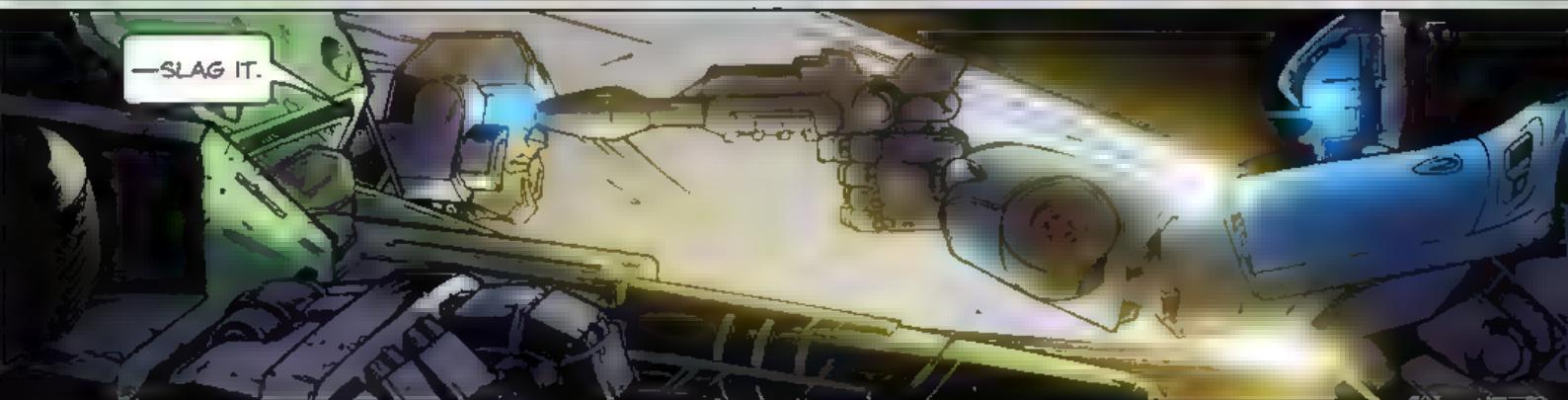
HOWEVER, THE EXPOSURE OR LOSS OF NIGHTBEAT AT SUCH A CRITICAL STAGE WOULD ENTAIL DIRECT ACTION ON MY PART, SOMETHING I WISH TO AVOID AT ALL COSTS. JHIAKUS...

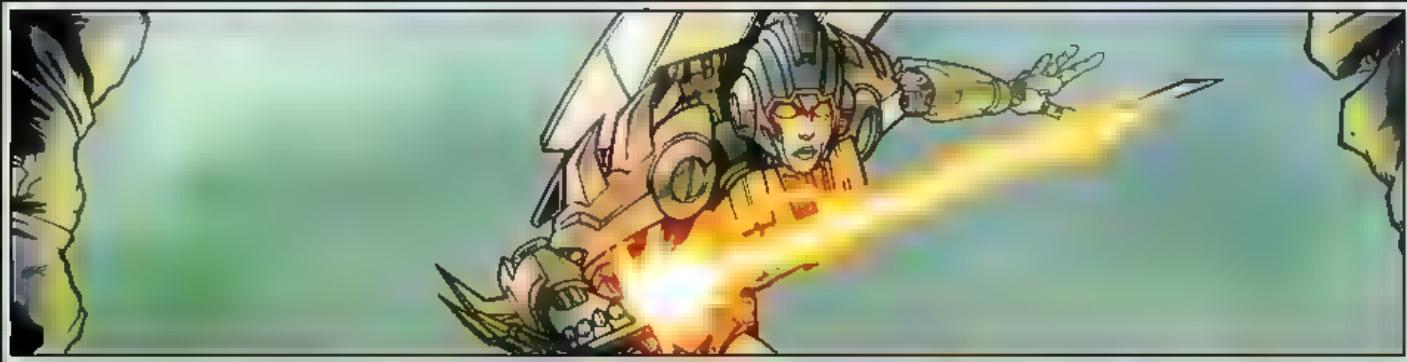
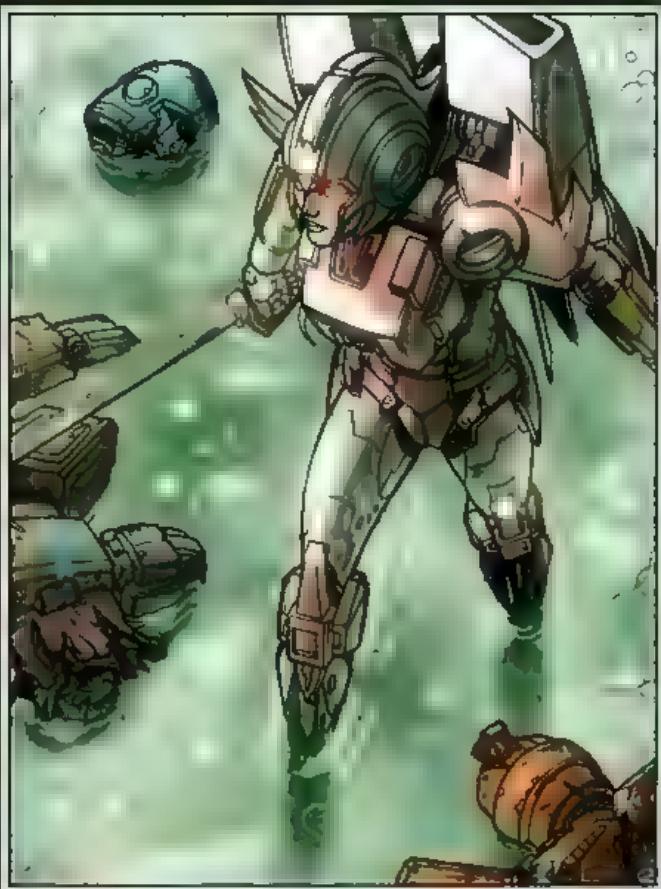


SEE TO THIS PERSONALLY!

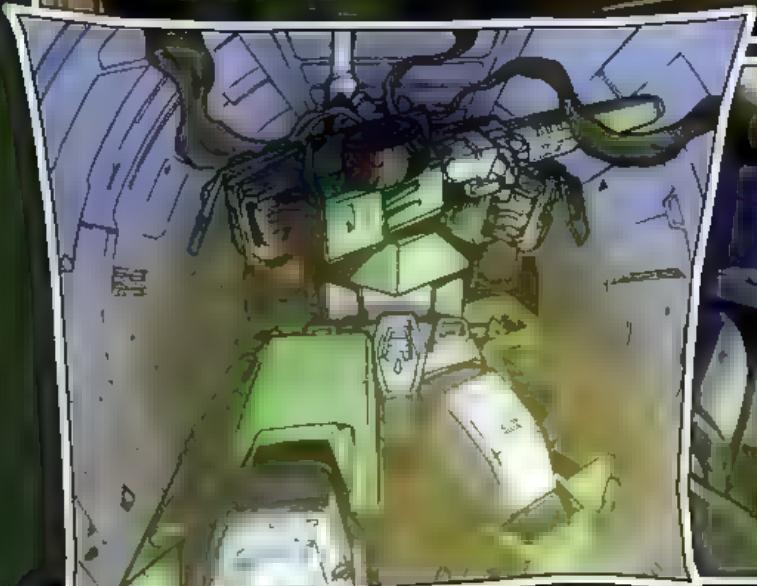
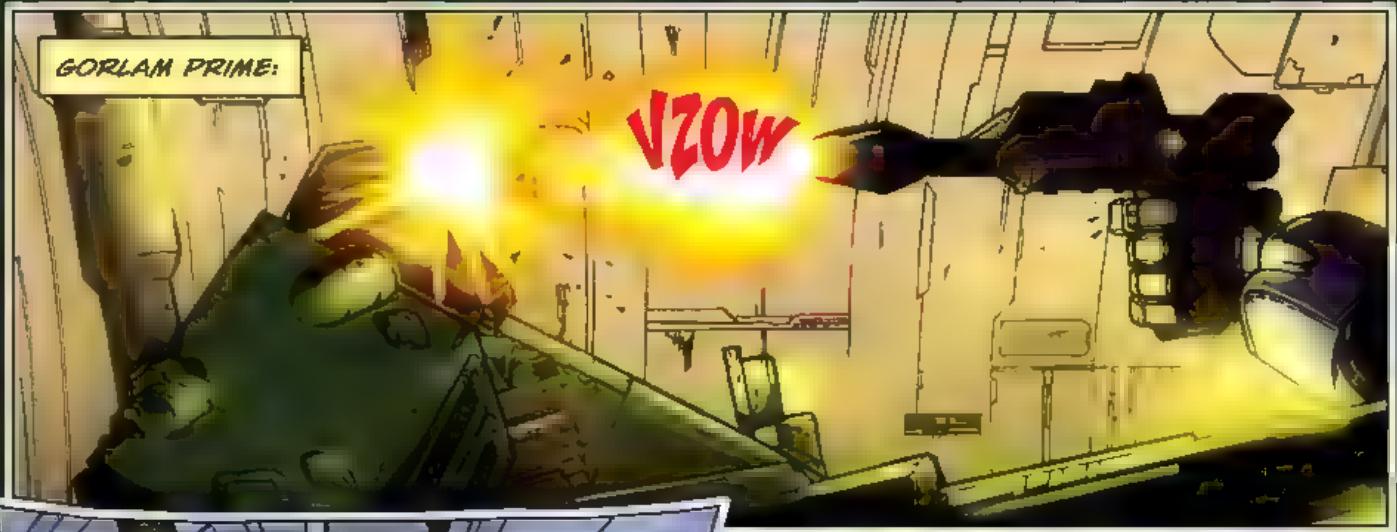












SOMEHOW, WHEN I
WASN'T LOOKING
MAYBE, THINGS
MOVED ON...

YOW

YOW

...AND LEFT
ME BEHIND!

YOWM

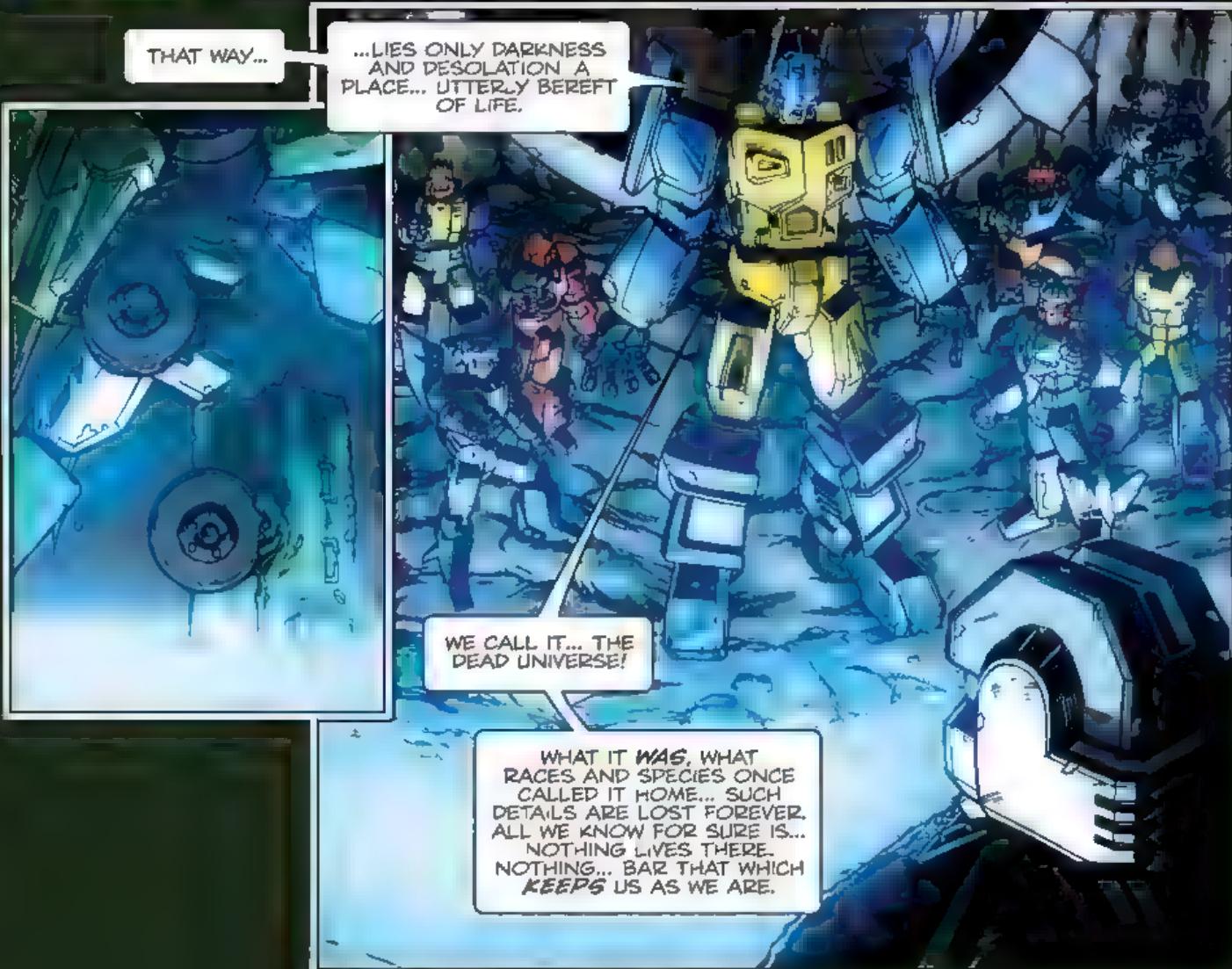
YOW

I HAVE TWO OPERATIONAL MODES:
BRUTAL... AND DIRECT. I CAN EVEN
RUN BOTH AT ONCE. BUT THERE REALLY
ISN'T MUCH MORE TO ME THAN THAT.

MY ROLE IS TO CLEAN
UP THE MESSSES, DO THE
DAMAGE LIMITATION. IN
THE VERNACULAR...

...I'M A PROBLEM-SOLVER

I DO WHAT I HAVE
TO DO—HOWEVER
UGLY IT GETS—
AND GET OUT.



ACCEPT THAT.. YOUR TIME IS DONE.. YOUR COURSE RUN.. AND IT WILL BE QUICK. THE PAIN.. MOMENTARY.

RESIST... AND YOUR SUFFERING SHALL... BE ETERNAL.

THERE.

I'M READY.



READY FOR WHATEVER'S NEXT, BE IT DEATH OR CHANGE OR SOMETHING IN BETWEEN.

I GO TO MEET MY DESTINY...



...HEAD ON!

NUHH!

WHAT?

THE DEAD
UNIVERSE!

HH-TT.

THE INSTRUMENT...
IS GONE. GONE!

THIS
NECESSITATES A
CONFRONTATION I
HAD WISHED TO DEFER
UNTIL IT WAS FAR TOO
LATE TO AFFECT THE
EXPANSION IN ANY WAY.
SHAPE OR FORM. IT
SEEMS I MUST DO WHAT
NIGHTBEAT WAS
MEANT TO...

...AND ELIMINATE
OPTIMUS PRIME.

THE BENZULI EXPANSE:

IT'S GONE...

I MEAN, NOT THERE ANYMORE. THE WHOLE SYSTEM—PLANETS, STARS, THE LOT!

AND IN ITS PLACE A BIG NOTHING.

IT'S UNLIKE ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN, JETFIRE, AND WE'RE GETTING ZERO TELEMETRY BACK FROM IT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "GONE"?

PROBES? DRONES?

CEASE TO FUNCTION AS SOON AS THEY CROSS THE EVENT HORIZON. AND I HAVE THE NAGGING SUSPICION, WERE WE TO TRY, THE SAME WOULD HAPPEN TO US.

HM.

I WONDER.

CLOUDBURST—YOU, LANDMINE, GROUNDBREAKER, AND WAVERIDER...

...JUST VOLUNTEERED!



The REVELATION saga continues next month featuring... **DOUBLEDEALER**



THE TRANSFORMERS SPOTLIGHT: **HARDHEAD**

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REVELATION: PART TWO

HARDHEAD